

Nebraska Public Service Commission

COMMISSIONERS:

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ROD JOHNSON
FRANK E. LANDIS
GERALD L. VAP

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

ANDY S. POLLOCK



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NEBRASKA CONSUMER HOTLINE:

1-800-526-0017

September 26, 2006

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Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A306
Washington, DC 20554

Karen Majcher
Vice President, High Cost and Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, NW, Suite #200
Washington, DC 20036

RE: Certification of Support for Rural and Non-Rural High-cost Carriers
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R Sections 54.313-314, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256

To the Filing Representatives:

The Nebraska Public Service Commission hereby certifies that all federal high cost support provided to the listed rural and non-rural carriers in this state, will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with section 254(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. This includes High Cost Loop (HCL) support, Local Switching Support (LSS), High Cost Model (HCM) support, and high cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges.

Attached is Application No. NUSF-25, Progression Order No. 15, as approved by the Nebraska Public Service Commission on September 19, 2006. Application No. NUSF-25, Progression Order No. 16, as approved by the Nebraska Public Service Commission on September 26, 2006, is also attached. Both Commission orders list those rural and non-rural carriers certified by the Nebraska Public Service Commission pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.314 of the FCC's rules (47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.314), which requires states to establish an annual certification process for rural and non-rural carriers receiving federal high cost support. As requested by the Universal Service Administrative Company, a listing of these carriers and their assigned study area code (SAC), if known, has been included as an attachment to this letter.

No. of Copies rec'd _____
List A B C D E

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission
Ms. Karen Majcher, Universal Service Administration Company

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Additionally, pursuant to section 54.316 of the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) rules, the above referenced order certifies the reasonable comparability of residential rates in rural area of Nebraska, served by non-rural incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) to urban rates on a national level.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lowell C. Johnson", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Lowell C. Johnson, Chairman

LCJ/bz

Enclosure

Nebraska Public Service Commission

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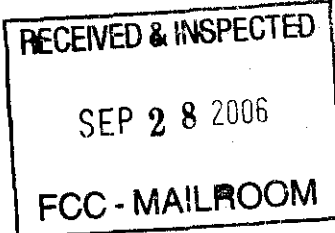
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September 21, 2006

CERTIFICATION

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Andy S. Pollock, Executive Director of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, hereby certify that the enclosed is a true and correct copy of the original order made and entered in the proceeding docketed as Application No. NUSF-25, Progression Order No. #15, on the 19th day of September, 2006. The original order is filed and recorded in the official records of the Commission.

Please direct any questions concerning this order to Jeff Pursley, Director, at 402-471-3101.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Lincoln, Nebraska, this 21st day of September, 2006.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy S. Pollock".

Andy S. Pollock
Executive Director

ASP:bz

Enclosure

cc:

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) APPLICATION NO. NUSF-25
Public Service Commission, on)
its own motion, seeking to)
establish guidelines for the) Progression Order No. 15
purpose of certifying the use)
of federal universal service)
support.) Entered: September 19, 2006

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

1. The Commission has established self-certification as its process for verifying whether all federal high-cost support will be used for its intended purpose, pursuant to 47 C.F.R § 54.314 and CC Docket No. 96-45. See Application No. NUSF-25, Progression Order #1 (August 21, 2001). Progression Order #5 in this docket required each rural incumbent local exchange carrier and/or eligible telecommunications carrier to file a notarized copy of an affidavit certifying whether federal high-cost support is being used consistent with section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, on or before September 1 of each year.

2. On October 27, 2003, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released its Order on Remand, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Memorandum Opinion and Order in CC Docket 96-45, FCC 03-249 (Order on Remand). In that Order, the FCC expanded the state certification process. Each state is required to review its rates in rural, high-cost areas served by non-rural carriers annually to assess the comparability of those rates to urban rates nationwide. States are required to file a certification with the FCC by October 1st annually, stating whether its rates are reasonably comparable to nationwide urban rates, or in the alternative, explain why they are not.

3. The Commission finds that the following carriers filed properly completed affidavits regarding the use of federal high cost support:

Allo Communications, LLC
Alltel Wireless
Arapahoe Telephone Company dba ATC Communications

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Application No. NUSF-25
Progression Order No. 15

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Arlington Telephone Company
Benkelman Telephone Company, Inc.
Blair Telephone Company
Cambridge Telephone Company
Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nebraska,
Inc., aka Frontier
Clarks Telecommunications Company
Consolidated Telco, Inc.
Consolidated Telecom, Inc.
Consolidated Telephone Company
Cozad Telephone Company
Curtis Telephone Company, Inc.
Dalton Telephone Company, Inc.
Diller Telephone Company
Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company
Elsie Communications, Inc.
Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation
Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.
Great Plains Communications, Inc.
Hamilton Telephone Company
Hartington Telecommunications Company, Inc.
Hartman Telephone Exchanges, Inc.
Hemingford Cooperative Telephone Company
Henderson Cooperative Telephone Company
Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company
Hooper Telephone Company dba WestTel Systems
Huntel Cablevision dba Huntel Communications
K & M Telephone Company, Inc.
Keystone-Arthur Telephone Company
Mobius Communications
Nebraska Central Telephone Company
Nebraska Technology and Telecommunications, Inc.
NE Colorado Cellular d/b/a Viaero Wireless
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company
Orbitcom, Inc.
Pierce Telephone Company, Inc.
Pinpoint Communications
Plainview Telephone Company, Inc.
Qwest Corporation
Rock County Telephone Company
Sodtown Telephone Company
Southeast Nebraska Telephone Company
Stanton Telecom, Inc.
Three River Telco
Three River Communications
United Telephone Company of the West d/b/a Embarq

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Application No. NUSF-25
Progression Order No. 15

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Vivian Telephone Company
Wauneta Telephone Company
Windstream Communications f/k/a Alltel
Communications

4. Accordingly, the Commission will provide certification to the Administrator of the federal high-cost universal service support mechanisms and the Federal Communications Commission that the above-listed carriers will use federal high-cost support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and/or service for which the support is intended in accordance with section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as amended.

5. In addition, the Commission finds that the following non-rural carrier(s) charge rural rates which fall below the safe harbor and which are therefore presumably reasonably comparable:

Windstream Communications (f/k/a Alltel)
Qwest Communications Corporation (Qwest)

6. Accordingly, the Commission will provide certification to the Federal Communications Commission and Administrator of the federal high-cost universal service support mechanisms that the rates of the above-listed carrier(s) are reasonably comparable.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the affidavits filed by the above-referenced carriers are accepted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Department certify to the Federal Communications Commission that the above-listed non-rural carriers are charging rates reasonably comparable to the nationwide urban rate benchmark as described herein.

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

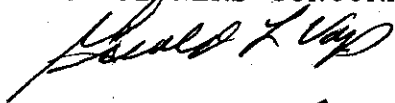
Application No. NUSF-25
Progression Order No. 15

Page 4

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 19th day of
September, 2006.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:



//s//Lovell C. Johnson

//s//Frank E. Landis


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

Nebraska Public Service Commission

COMMISSIONERS:

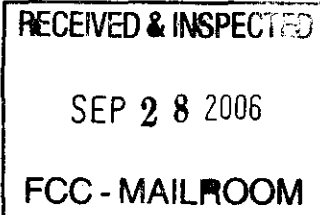
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
ANDY S. POLLOCK



September 27, 2006

CERTIFICATION

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Andy S. Pollock, Executive Director of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, hereby certify that the enclosed is a true and correct copy of the original order made and entered in the proceeding docketed as Application No. NUSF-25, Progression Order #16, on the 26th day of September, 2006. The original order is filed and recorded in the official records of the Commission.

Please direct any questions concerning this order to Jeff Pursley, Director, at 402-471-3101.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Lincoln, Nebraska, this 27th day of September, 2006.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A S Pollock".

Andy S. Pollock
Executive Director

ASP:bz

Enclosure

Cc: Windstream Nebraska, Inc., Steve Meradith, 1440 "M" Street, Lincoln, NE 68508
Budget Phone, Inc., Art Magee, 6901 W 70th Street, Shreveport LA 71149
Federal Communications Commission
Universal Service Administrative Company

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) APPLICATION NO. NUSF-25
Public Service Commission, on)
its own motion, seeking to)
establish guidelines for the) Progression Order No. 16
purpose of certifying the use)
of federal universal service)
support.) Entered: September 26, 2006

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

1. The Commission has established self-certification as its process for verifying whether all federal high-cost support will be used for its intended purpose, pursuant to 47 C.F.R § 54.314 and CC Docket No. 96-45. See Application No. NUSF-25, Progression Order #1 (August 21, 2001). Progression Order #5 in this docket, required each rural incumbent local exchange carrier and/or eligible telecommunications carrier to file a notarized copy of an affidavit certifying whether federal high-cost support is being used consistent with section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, on or before September 1 of each year.

2. On September 19, 2006, the Commission entered Progression Order No. 15 naming the carriers who filed properly completed affidavits regarding the use of federal high-cost support. On September 22, 2006, the Commission received a Motion to Accept a Late-Filed Affidavit from Budget Phone, Inc., along with a properly completed affidavit.

3. The Commission finds that the Motion filed by Budget Phone, Inc. should be granted and the following carrier filed properly completed affidavits regarding the use of federal high cost support:

Budget Phone, Inc.

4. Accordingly, the Commission will provide certification to the Administrator of the federal high-cost universal service support mechanisms and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that the above-listed carriers will use federal high-cost support only for the

Application No. NUSF-25

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provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and/or service for which the support is intended in accordance with section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as amended.

5. In addition, Progression Order No. 15 should be corrected for Windstream. The order should have listed Windstream Nebraska, Inc. rather than Windstream Communications f/k/a Alltel Communications where it is referenced in Progression Order No. 15. This order corrects that reference and Windstream Nebraska Inc., shall be listed in the Commission's certification to the FCC and to the Administrator of the federal high-cost universal service support mechanisms.

O R D E R



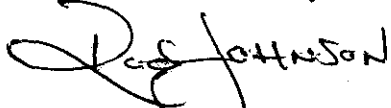
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the affidavit filed by the above-referenced carrier is accepted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Progression Order No. 15 be and it is hereby corrected as it pertains to Windstream Nebraska, Inc.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 26th day of September, 2006.



NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

//s// Lowell E. Johnson

//s// Frank E. Landis


Chairman
ATTEST:

Executive Director

Application No. NUSF-25, Progression Orders No. 15 & 16
Federal High Cost Support - Study Area by Carrier

<u>COMPANY NAME</u>	<u>STUDY AREA CODE</u> <u>(SAC)</u>
Allo Communications	379010
ALLTEL Wireless	Not Known
Arapahoe Telephone (ATC Communications)	371516
Arlington Telephone Company	371517
Benkelman Telephone Company	372455
Blair Telephone Company	371525
Budget Phone, Inc.	379012
Cambridge Telephone Company	371526
Citizens Telecommunications	371128
Clarks Telecommunications Co.	371531
Consolidated Telco, Inc.	371530
Consolidated Telecom, Inc. frmly Home Telephone and Eustis Telephone	371562 371545
Consolidated Telephone Co.	371532
Cozad Telephone Co.	371534
Curtis Telephone Co.	371536
Dalton Telephone Co.	371537
Diller Telephone Co.	371540
Eastern Nebraska Telephone Co.	371542
Elsie Telephone Co.	371518
Glenwood Telephone	371553
Golden West Telecommunications Coop	391659
Great Plains Communications	371577
Hamilton Telephone Co.	371555
Hartington Telecommunications Co.	371556
Hartman Telephone	371557

Hemingford Cooperative	371558
Henderson Cooperative	371559
Hershey Cooperative	371561
Hooper Telephone Company dba Westel	371563
Huntel Cablevision dba Huntel Communications	Not Known
K&M Telephone Company	371565
Keystone-Arthur Telephone	371567
Mobius Communications	379014
Nebraska Central Telephone	371574
Nebraska Technology and Telecommunications	379004
NE Colorado Cellular dba Viaero	379008
Northeast Nebraska Telephone	371576
Orbitcom, Inc.	379009
Pierce Telephone Co.	371581
Pinpoint Communications	379003
Plainview Telephone	371582
Qwest Corporation	375143
Rock County Telephone	371586
Sodtown Telephone	371590
Southeast Nebraska Telephone	371591
United Telephone Company/Midwest - Sprint d/b/a Embarq	371595
Stanton Telecom, Inc.	371592
Three River Communications, LLC	379015
Three River Telco	371525
Vivian Telephone	391686
Wauneta Telephone	371597
WWC License, LLC aka Western Wireless	379005
Windstream Nebraska, Inc.	Not Known